



00862.022157

PATENT APPLICATION

2625
#5
3-15-04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: T. Johnson
OSAMU ITOKAWA)
: Group Art Unit: 2625
Application No.: 09/816,453)
:
Filed: March 26, 2001)
:
For: IMAGE PROCESSING)
: APPARATUS AND METHOD,)
: AND COMPUTER READABLE)
: MEMORY)
: March 1, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAR 09 2004

Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO ELECTION-OF-SPECIES REQUIREMENT

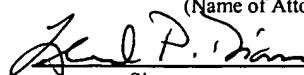
Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 30, 2004 (February 29, 2004, being a Sunday), Applicant hereby elects Species II, corresponding to Figs. 2, 3, and 7-9, on which Claims 1, 4, 6-9, 12, 15, and 17-20 are readable, for initial prosecution on the merits.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

March 1, 2004
(Date of Deposit)

LEONARD P. DIANA (Reg. No. 29,296)
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)


Signature

March 1, 2004
Date of Signature

While no fee is believed to be due in connection with this response, any such fee should be charged to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application are respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 28, 286

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